

VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Tellico Village VFW Post 12135



Harold (Rob) Reinbold was born on July 27, 1949 in Evergreen Park, IL. He was the oldest of four sons. His father was a WWII Navy Officer veteran and his mother a homemaker. All the sons supported their nation by two serving in the Army and the other two serviced in the Navy.

After high school, Rob was not interested in college so he joined the Army Security Agency in September 1967, where he went to Basic Training (BCT) at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. After completing BCT, he was then transferred to Fort Devens, MA for his Advanced Individual Training (AIT) in Communication Intercept. While in AIT, he learned Morse Code and Teletype Intercept. After successfully graduating AIT, Rob was transferred to Berlin, Germany as his first duty station. While in Berlin, he volunteered for Vietnam. He was then assigned to Phubai for 20 months. His duty was to serve as an Air Traffic Controller, supporting the 101st Airborne Division with planes and helped find equipment to pinpoint radio transmitters. He was eventually promoted to Specialist 5 (E-5), then volunteered to train and fill the role as an 81MM Mortarman. He was then quickly assigned as a squad leader in a mortar platoon. After his tour in Vietnam, Rob returned home back to the U.S. and was eventually honorably discharged in April 1971. His awards and decorations include

the Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Army Occupation Medal (Berlin) and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

Upon Rob's discharge from the military, he decided to live in Richton Park where he started a career with the Illinois Central (IC) Railroad. He was a signal inspector and also conducted tests for the Federal Rail Road Administration. During his time back in IL, Rob reconnected with his soon to be wife, Donna. Rob met Donna through her brother prior to him entering the Army. During his time in the Army, they would keep in touch through the letters in the mail. When he returned home and out of the military, Rob and Donna married. After a 38-year career with IC, Rob and his wife decided to retire in Tellico Village in 2015. Rob and Donna have two daughters, one lives in Tennessee and other lives in Illinois.

Rob's favorite past times are fishing, reading, and traveling with his wife of 51 years. Rob also volunteers with his local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #12135. He is a founding charter member and served as the Post's Surgeon for three years. He also participates in the Post's Poppy Campaigns, Memorial Day gravesite U.S. Flag planting, and U.S. Flag Retirement ceremonies. Rob and his wife are enjoying their retirement in Tellico Village.

The Tellico Village VFW Post #12135 General meeting is held at 7:00 p.m. in the Tellico Village Yacht Club every third Wednesday of the month. Further information can be found on the Post website at: <https://www.tvvfw.org/>.